

NEWS RELEASE

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

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SUBJECT: <u>Legislative committee extends Chronic Wasting Disease</u>

Emergency Rule package

Madison, Wis. – The Joint Committee on Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR) voted today to extend the Chronic Wasting Disease emergency rule package until April 1, 2003.

No changes were made to the emergency rule, which includes a ban on baiting and feeding in Wisconsin. However, the JCRAR plans to submit a letter to the Department of Natural Resources requesting a ban on the movement of deer carcasses out of the CWD eradication zone.

The department currently lacks the authority to control the movement of wild deer carcasses out of the CWD eradication and management zones, said Tom Hauge, director of the DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management. Though the department encourages hunters not to remove deer from the zone of kill after registration, the department lacks authority to enforce such a restriction. The DNR does require deer to be registered in the same zone of kill.

"We will consider the committee's request when it arrives," Hauge said. "In the meantime, we will be looking into what authority the Department may have regarding the issue."